

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 BELFAS 00203 131251Z

46

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-15 EB-07

OMB-01 /076 W

----- 030197

R 131216Z JUN 75

FM AMCONSUL BELFAST

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 955

INFO AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

USNAVCOMMSTA LONDONDERRY

UNCLAS BELFAST 203

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, U.K. (N.I.)

SUBJECT: CONVENTION - DEBATE MOVES FROM RULES TO SUBSTANCE

REF: BELFAST 191

1. NORTHERN IRELAND CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION FINISHED
DEBATING AND APPROVED 19 PROPOSED RULES JUNE 12. LONG,
SPIRITED AND SOMEWHAT CONFUSED DEBATE OVER FORM AND CONTENT
FINAL CONVENTION REPORT TO WESTMINSTER ENDED WITH 41-26
VOTE REFLECTING UNITED ULSTER UNIONIST COALITION (UUUC)
MAJORITY OVER SOCIAL DEMOCRATIC AND LABOUR PARTY (SDLP),
ALLIANCE PARTY, UNIONIST PARTY NORTHERN IRELAND (UPNI)
AND ONE MEMBER NORTHERN IRELAND LABOUR PARTY (NILP). IN
ESSENCE, RULE ESTABLISHES ONE FINAL REPORT BUT LEAVES
OPEN QUESTION OF HOW OR WHETHER MINORITY OR DISSENTING
VIEWS WILL BE INCLUDED. IN COURSE THIS DEBATE SDLP
MEMBER PADDY DEVLIN SUGGESTED AS EMERGENCY MATTER INTERIM
CONVENTION REPORT ON SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC MATTERS. SUGGESTION
RECEIVED QUALIFIED APPROVAL REVEREND IAN PAISLEY AND OTHER
LOYALISTS.

2. CONVENTION WILL RESUME JUNE 17 TO DEBATE FIRST

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 BELFAS 00203 131251Z

MOTION WHICH SDLP SUBMISSION LARGELY REFLECTING WORDING

OF ACT. MOTION CALLS FOR CONVENTION DEVISE SYSTEM
GOVERNMENT FOR NORTHERN IRELAND WHICH WILL HAVE MOST
WIDESPREAD ACCEPTANCE AND REJECTS VIOLENCE FOR ANY SOURCE.
LITTLE OPPOSITION TO MOTION FORESEEN.

3. ATMOSPHERE AND LEVEL DEBATE GENERALLY POSITIVE THIS
WEEK AS BEFORE (REFTEL). "BACKBENCHERS" MADE MAIDEN
SPEECHES AND THERE SOME MINOR WAVING OF HISTORICAL
BLOODY SHIRT. POSSIBLY MORE IMPORTANT THAN CONVENTION
PROCEEDINGS WERE DISCUSSION MEETINGS UUUC LEADERS HELD
SEPARATELY WITH SDLP AND ALLIANCE LEADERS. UUUC AND
SDLP MET PRIVATELY TWICE DURING LAST TEN DAYS AND IT
BELIEVED THEY AGREED: (A) AVOID INTRODUCTION CONTROVERSIAL
ISSUES BEFORE SUMMER ADJOURNMENT JULY 3, (B) EXTEND SUMMER
BREAK FOR TWO WEEKS TO AUG. 14, (C) CONTINUE PRIVATE
DISCUSSIONS DURING RECESS.

4. IRISH NEWS, TRADITIONALLY AND DEFENSIVELY PESSIMISTIC,
JOINED IRISH TIMES AND DAILY TELEGRAPH (LONDON) IN
EXPRESSIONS CAUTIOUS OPTIMISM ABOUT CONVENTION. RESTRAINT
IN DEBATE, MEETINGS DESCRIBED ABOVE, SUGGESTION FROM OFFICIAL
UNIONISTS THAT "COUNCIL OF BRITISH ISLES" COULD SATISFY
DIVERSE ASPIRATIONS AND TABLING OF MOTION CALLING FOR BILL
OF RIGHTS ALL HELPING FEED THIS OPTIMISM.

SPICER

UNCLASSIFIED

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: CONSTITUTION, CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION, RULES COMMITTEE, POLITICAL PARTIES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 13 JUN 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975BELFAS00203
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750206-0854
From: BELFAST
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750650/aaaabsqwq.tel
Line Count: 87
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 75 BELFAST 191
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: greeneet
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 31 MAR 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <31 MAR 2003 by PhilliR0>; APPROVED <12 FEB 2004 by greeneet>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
06 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: CONVENTION - DEBATE MOVES FROM RULES TO SUBSTANCE
TAGS: PINT, UK, NI, SDLP, UPNI, UUUC, (NI)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006